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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 19 | Humidity 55% Partly Cloudy Sensex 65,982 | Nifty 19,765 | Gold 60,765 | Silver 73,642 | Dollar 83.24 | Euro 90.55 | GBP 103.61

UNWIND
Underground cabling delay

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EASY NOW
Smart parking at BBP

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Children cannot access play equipment at parks across city as it is not safe due to poor maintenance by civic body

GAME OVER

Play areas in BBMP parks favourite destinations for children from lower/middle-class families

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

There was no dearth of politicians or authorities concerned speaking eloquently on child rights on the occasion of Children's Day.

Fact is these politicians and authorities, especially those from the state women and child development department and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) forget to provide basic amenities for the children on the very next day of the Children's Day.

Play areas in the parks maintained by the BBMP horticulture department are favourite destinations for children from lower and middle-class families.

These play areas are equipped with play equipment for the benefit of children set up by spending lakhs of rupees at each park in the city.

However, children find it tough to access the play equipment as it is not safe; the play equipment at many parks across the city need maintenance.

For example, the play equipment at Namma Park situated on the 10th Cross of Vasanth Nagar will be of no use for children whenever it rains.

It is tough for children to access the play equipment due to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"What is the use of play equipment if the BBMP is unable to check waterlogging?

— Govinda Raju, resident, Vasanth Nagar

Heavy on metal

Heavy metals have contaminated soil, groundwater of Bengaluru, KSPCB report says

| Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

At least six areas in Bengaluru - Goripalya, Peenya Industrial area, Lalbagh Lake, Hebbal Lake, Agara Lake, and Begur lake - have high concentrations of heavy metals - lead, copper, chromium, magnesium - a report submitted by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) said.

The report is an outcome of soil, surface water, and groundwater analysis conducted by KSPCB recently.

The analysis results showed that while the soil samples collected from the Goripalya area are contaminated with copper and chromium, groundwater is contaminated with lead and chromium. Similarly, while soil samples from the Peenya Industrial area revealed contamination with lead and chromium, groundwater samples were found to be contaminated with lead, copper, magnesium and chromium. Analysis of surface water samples from Lalbagh, Hebbal, Begur, and Agara lakes revealed contamination of these waterbodies with lead.

KSPCB analysed 15 such sites in the city based on CPCB's recommendations a couple of years ago. The central pollution watchdog had then identified five sites in the city contaminated by toxic and hazardous substances. It had also published a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 In action

Get ready to watch some of the most talented artists perform for Aadyam Theatre, an initiative by the Aditya Birla Group. The group is presenting the play 'The F Word', which is directed by Akarsh Khurana. Here, F stands for family, and the play aims to take you on a mixed ride of emotions and humour. **Where: Ranga Shankara; When: Today at 7:30pm and tomorrow at 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm**

02 Cosplay season

If you love cosplaying and you have been waiting for something big, then your wait is about to get over. Get excited, as Bengaluru Comic Con is back with its 11th edition this month. From celebrity guests to awesome merchandise, some of the biggest cosplayers will be part of the event. Along with showcasing comics in a big way, the event will see panels and exclusive sessions.
Where: KTPO Trade Centre, Whitefield
When: until November 19

03 Musical notes

Don't miss the soulful Ghazal music performance by Muqtalif. Shreyas on tabla, Dheeraj Bannerjea on guitar, and Aparupa, the singer, will be performing to make us ponder about trials and weaknesses and celebrate silence.
Where: Atta Galatta, 178, 5th Main, 9th Cross, 1st Stage Indiranagar (opp Café Terra)
When: November 18; 1 pm

Choking on celebration: Struggle for fresh air

After Deepawali festivities, city doctors point out notable increase in asthma and other respiratory cases; they say elderly seem to be more affected

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The sudden drop in minimum temperature to as low as 17–19 degrees Celsius, coupled with fumes emitted by firecrackers in Deepawali, has spurred a surge in asthma cases in the city. Doctors from various city hospitals say cases of asthma and other respiratory issues are surging to alarmingly high levels.

"We have seen a surge in asthma and other respiratory issues since the past two weeks, and they are up by an alarming 50 per cent," said Dr Pavan Yadav, pulmonologist at Aster RV Hospital.

Young adults with pre-existing conditions, especially those with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and individuals above 60 years of age are the most affected. Healthcare experts say patients are primarily presenting with symptoms of breathing discomfort, particularly a persistent cough accompanied by a wheezing sound in the chest, especially in the early morning.

"The elderly seem to be more affected. Most patients in our OPD have been above 60 years of age. Common symptoms include fever, breathing difficulty, and wheezing," said Dr Sachin Kumar, pulmonologist at Sakra World Hospital.

Experts say that the combination of smoke and the ongoing temperature fluctuations has contributed to the rise in cases

Experts added that while the consistent temperature fluctuations over the last two weeks in the city are one of the probable causes, the increase in air pollution post-Deepawali is surely a contributing factor. Additionally, viral infections such as influenza and the RSV virus that have been making the rounds since August may have collectively contributed to the increased cases of asthma and bronchitis.

"While this surge began before Deepawali, possibly due to a sudden drop in temperature, the combination of smoke from firecrackers and the ongoing temperature fluctuations has contributed to the overall rise in the number of cases," explained Dr Kumar. To manage the issue, individuals with conditions such as asthma or bronchitis should adhere to their prescribed medications consistently and maintain regular consultations, suggest doctors.

Being mindful of vaccines, such as the pneumococcal vaccine, is crucial, as they play a preventive role in avoiding exacerbations of these diseases. Moreover, wearing masks in public places, keeping car windows rolled up, avoiding crowded places, maintaining hand hygiene, opting for vaccinations against flu, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle can help those predisposed to such conditions.

> **"Most patients in our OPD have been above 60 years of age. Common symptoms include fever, breathing difficulty, and wheezing** –Dr Sachin Kumar

"Increased exposure to cracker smoke can aggravate the symptoms as there is a worsening of the air quality index due to excessive chemicals from crackers. When a person with asthma has increased symptoms, we suggest getting evaluated by a pulmonologist so that it can be treated properly. Early intervention will lead to reduced damage to the lungs and better lung health. This also prevents repeated asthma attacks. Wearing a mask reduces exposure to dust, which reduces the chances of such an illness. In patients with susceptibility, vaccination for flu will prevent infection," said Dr Manjunath PH, pulmonologist at Gleneagles Hospital Bengaluru.

Embrace Kadalekai Parishe with minimal waste

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The city's groundnut festival, Kadalekai Parishe, is said to be held between December 9 and 11 this year at Basavanagudi and is expected to draw over thousands of people, with many vendors putting up their stalls. While with this festival waste is expected to be generated, the volunteers this time have in advance joined hands to come up with action plans to reduce the wastage during the event and help it turn into a green vent. While most of the vendors still continue to use plastic bags to give away the items, the volunteers have started raising awareness by asking the communities to join hands and donate cloth bags or old cloth materials to make the bags and give them to the vendors.

The idea behind the initiative is for the vendors at Kadalekai Parishe to embrace the eco-friendly touch and get used to the fact

that they use only cloth or newspaper bags on a daily basis. Various associations have come forward, like the SWMRT, the Indian Bloggers Army, Beautiful Bharat, Saahas, Hasirudala, Youth for Parivarthan, Let's Be the Change, and Adamya Chetana, to work together for the cause. Just a few days ago, the volunteers met the BBMP officials and sought help from them to have the marshals, health inspectors, and pourakarmikas during the event to ensure there is less waste and the place stays clean.

Raj from the Indian Ploggers Army said, "We are rolling out a clothes collection drive across the city wherein the residents, RWAs, colleges, and all can make cloth bags or take up a cloth collection drive and send them to tailors, and the tailors will have them stitched. The idea is to ensure that the vendors, to the extent possible, avoid plastic and use only cloth bags and paper bags, and that all visitors use cloth bags only."

BBMP is working out a way to ensure the plastic bags are seized from the vendors before the event starts and also provide them with alternatives like cloth bags or paper bags, he added.

College students are also coming together to make cloth bags and distribute them to the vendors. "I am trying to mobilise volunteers and ask them to come forward to check on the segregation during the event. I have contacted colleges, like PES College, RV PU College, BMS College of Engineering, and Dayanand Sagar College, and have asked them to create awareness," said Dhruv Nagarajan Koundinya from BMS College of Engineering.

Abduction, for a few dollars more

CRIME FILES

Two men were taken into custody in relation to the abduction of SK Saleman, a ragpicker who had found wads of counterfeit notes in US currency adding up to $3 million on the Nagawara railway track.

The men, Saravana and Bidan, along with three others are said to have abducted Saleman and R Kaleem Ullah, who helped the ragpicker give the money to the police.

Saleman was gathering plastic and bottles along the Nagawara Railway Track on November 3, when he found the 23 bundles of cash. Saleman wanted to give the notes to the police, for which he received assistance from Kaleem Ullah, a social activist and member of Swaraj India's national executive. Meanwhile, the five men plotted and kidnapped Saleman on November 7. When they found Saleman did not have the cash, they abducted Kaleem Ullah on November 8. After the accused freed him, Kaleem Ullah went to the Amruthahalli Police Station and filed a complaint based on which an FIR was filed. Police said the accused had learnt about the discovery of cash from the news and then abducted the two persons. Police are on the lookout for the other three accused.

Globe-trotting with govt job con booty

A 53-year-old man was taken into police custody for conning women with false promises of government jobs. Mohan Kumar, the accused, is said to have deceived multiple women by taking money from them and offering them government positions as First Division Assistants (FDA) and Second Division Assistants (SDA).

An FIR filed at the Vidhana Soudha Police station claims that Mohan Kumar took Rs 2,50,000 from one Girija T in installments. He allegedly sought Rs 10 lakh from her for the government job.

Mohan Kumar, who was employed by Vidhana Soudha as a security guard, accompanied Girija to Vidhana Soudha and after examining her degree certificate, assured her that he would help her find employment. It is said that he informed Girija that she could make the last payment of Rs 7.5 lakh once she obtained an appointment letter.

Mohan promised Girija that she would get an appointment letter in August. After August, he supposedly changed his phone number and stopped returning calls.

When Mohan Kumar arrived back at Kempegowda International Airport after his trip to Bangkok, the Vidhana Soudha Police took him into custody. It is said he would spend the money he made off the cons to travel within and outside the country.

VK ವಿಜಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ | BangaloreMirror

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Structural problem at Cubbon Park

Walkers wonder why Horticulture Dept, BSCL do not include their views or take architects' inputs while putting up permanent construction at park

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Regular visitors to Cubbon Park, a lush green haven visited by hundreds of walkers daily, have expressed concerns about the construction of an as-yet unidentified structure on the park premises. According to them, the structure not only disrupts the park's aesthetic, but also obstructs the view of the surrounding greenery.

The purpose of the construction has also left many walkers puzzled, with some speculating it could be a HOPCOMS unit and others assuming it may be a RO water facility. Previously, construction of a shed-like structure near the bandstand had begun in May, prompting opposition from some, although the objections were not considered, and the construction was completed.

Sunita Kumar from the "We Love Cubbon Park" group said, "We did not need another unit close to the bandstand as it is hardly 100 steps away from the newly installed one. A signboard could have directed people to the nearest water unit. The locations chosen for these structures seem to lack thoughtful planning. Despite these additions, people may still resort to using water bottles and littering the park. Strict measures against littering should be imposed. A small structure blending with the park's aesthetics, similar to the HOPCOMS structures, could have been a better choice."

Prabha Dev, another member of the group, agreed. "To stop arbitrary structures from marring the landscape, architects with experience of working in historic landscapes have to be involved with the park work. Permanent special plans will preserve its wild beauty," she said.

An official from Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL) told BM that they were following the directives from the Horticulture department in adding three additional RO water units to the park.

"The locations were decided by the Horticulture Department, with changes made during the planning process," he official said. According to the official, the final chosen locations were one near the bandstand, another near Karnataka Wine Board and one more at Bal Bhavan were chosen for their high public visitation.

The official however defended the project, stating, "It has not been obstructing any view."

They acknowledged that the repeated changes in locations caused a delay in completing the RO water unit but assured that the facility is now ready. The official added, "We only need to assemble the RO unit, and then it will be made open to the public, providing a convenient source of drinking water across the park."

Despite repeated calls to the Horticulture Department, officials remained unavailable for a response.

The Cubbon Park walkers, however, are upset with the horticulture department and BSCL officials for not having considered their views.

Will retire from politics if single case proved: CM

Reacting to the 'cash-for-posting' accusations by the Opposition, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has challenged that if the allegations against him are proved even in a single case he would retire from politics.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Siddaramaiah claimed that he was not involved in 'cash-for-postings' in his entire political career.

When asked about his son telling him over phone to approve only the five names in the list, Siddaramaiah said that if there were names in the list, does that mean transfer?

Dr CN Ashwath Narayan, BJP MLA and former Dy CM stated, the video of Siddaramaiah's son Yathindra telling him to finalise the work of five people named in the list proved allegations of an ATM Government, YST (Yathindra, Siddaramaiah Tax). The BJP had charged that now YST is in place.

Former CM HD Kumaraswamy said that "the cash-for-posting scam was taking place in the state without shame, continuously without any fear and the video grab was the clinching evidence".

"The extortion business of the Congress Government has come out in the open. The real face of the champion of social justice has come out in the open," Kumaraswamy said.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, on Thursday, rejected the allegations. Shivakumar said, "JDS and BJP are targeting Yathindra with frivolous allegations as they are devoid of any real issues.

By creating unnecessary controversies, they are only giving free publicity to help Yathindra grow as a leader."

Mutt sex scandal: Rape accused seer released after 14 months

Rape accused Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru of the historical Murugha Mutt in Chitradurga was on Thursday released from the prison after 14 months. He was arrested last year on charges of raping minor girls staying at the residential hostel run by the Murugha Mutt.

The accused influential Lingayat seer spent 14 months in the Chitradurga district prison. The Karnataka High Court on November 8 granted the conditional bail to him.

The seer is facing charges under the POCSO Act, IPC sections, Atrocity Act, Juvenile Justice Act and Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Act. He was arrested after a high drama on September 1, 2022 and has been in jail since then.

The Karnataka High Court granted conditional bail to the rape accused. The High Court Bench headed by Justice Sreenivas Harish Kumar has restrained the accused seer from entering the premises of the mutt and also had directed him to surrender his passport to the court. He also was asked to provide two sureties. **IANS**

BESCOM's wiring woes: Progress unplugged

BESCOM's underground cabling advances in 8 divisions, challenges persist in remaining 54 sub-divisions

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The underground cabling project by Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM), initially scheduled for completion in 2021, still remains significantly unfinished. Bengaluru currently has 9,057 km of high tension (HT) and 8,937 km of low tension (LT) overhead electric lines. Among the 62 sub-divisions under BESCOM, underground cabling has been implemented in eight divisions. In the remaining 54 sub-divisions, the cabling project has been executed in four phases, incurring a cost of Rs 5,031 crore across 27 packages. This initiative aims to place approximately 7,182 km of HT and 6,134 km of LT cables underground.

The original contractual agreement stipulated completion by the end of 2021; however, as of the end of 2023, the project still remains incomplete. When reached for comment, BESCOM MD Mahantesh Bilagi said that the project is progressing, and he will instruct officials to expedite its completion.

Officials mentioned that the delay in project completion is leading to an increase in costs. Initially, the project faced setbacks during the Covid years due to a lack of available workers amongst other reasons. However, since then, inflation has taken hold, causing prices to spiral. Project estimates are being revised periodically, potentially escalating the financial burden. There is a growing demand to expedite the completion of the underground portion to address these challenges.

BESCOM initiated the underground cable installation project in 2018-19, budgeted at Rs 5,400 crore. The pandemic led to a two-year delay in the project's progress. This underground cable installation aims to address several issues, including preventing voltage problems, minimising power outages, averting electrical accidents, and reducing power leakage. Additionally, it serves to prevent accidents caused by high-tension power lines and falling poles during the rainy season, curb electricity theft, and eliminate illegal connections.

> **"BESCOM officials anticipate the completion of the remaining work in a few days. Usually, whenever there are rains, there will be power disruptions**
> – BBMP official

An official said, "The process involves digging a six-feet-deep pit, filling it with one foot of sand, and installing robust underground cables. Another layer of one foot of sand is added, topped with a brick and covered with soil. Warning signs about the cable presence are placed every 500 meters. This installation of high-tension line wires underground helps prevent short circuits of LT wires and reduces the failure rate of distribution transformers due to unauthorised power connections. BESCOM officials anticipate the completion of the remaining work in a few days. Usually, whenever there are rains, there will be power disruptions." The official further added that the underground cabling ensures uninterrupted power during rainy weather, and the removal of overhead high-tension hanging cables is part of this initiative, not only enhancing power reliability but also opening up revenue-generating opportunities for BESCOM.

"It will be a revenue generation opportunity for us, and incidents of tripping due to weather conditions, tree falls, and challenges of congested wires will come to an end with the underground cabling system for high-tension wires. Fibre optic cables, known for their data transmission capabilities through light signals, will be incorporated into the system. To minimise road excavation for the project, we are collaborating with BBMP, ensuring a strategic approach to digging that avoids disrupting entire roads," the official said.

The original agreement stipulated completion of underground cabling by the end of 2021; however, the project remains incomplete

Old Airport Road's sidewalk squeeze sparks complaints

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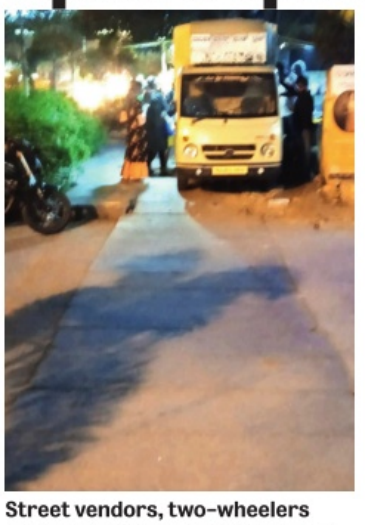
The residents of SNS Arcade on Old Airport Road have complained about footpath encroachment by street vendors and two-wheelers hopping on the pavements to ease their way through traffic congestion. Due to street vending, garbage is accumulated in the nooks and corners of the area, allege residents.

The Secretary of the resident association informed Bangalore Mirror that the issue has significantly affected senior citizens. "The footpath is becoming narrower by the day, leaving pedestrians no space to walk. Street vendors and two-wheelers have taken over the limited space," she said.

Recalling an incident when a motorist yelled at a senior citizen using the footpath, the Secretary said, "He was told to make way for the two-wheeler while using the footpath. They only care about getting to their jobs on time and do not hesitate to use the pavement for their purpose."

Furthermore, a bar in the vicinity of the residential complex has contributed to more business for the street vendors, raising questions about its licensing, especially since Vishweshwara College, an educational institution, is also present in the vicinity, she added.



Street vendors, two-wheelers disrupt sidewalks, exacerbating traffic, causing woes for residents

Another resident noted that despite bringing up the issue with relevant authorities several times, it has not been addressed. The resident mentioned that while cleaning work takes place, it is not carried out efficiently and lacks inspections by contractors. She also highlighted that despite the road witnessing consistent VIP movement, it has not been adequately maintained. "The barricades differentiating the two lanes are not in good condition. They must ideally be made of concrete," she suggested.

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Puddle puzzle

Vasanth Nagar

In Ward 93, Vasanth Nagar, concerns arise over rainwater drainage near the Racecourse loop. A previous suggestion for improvement during construction awaits attention.

Drain strain

Majestic

At Majestic, inefficient rainwater drainage causes disruptions. Urgent call for BMTC to address concerns at the bus stand, ensuring commuter comfort and addressing splashing issues during bus arrivals.

Local distress

Gurappanapalya

In Ward No 171, Jayanagar, concerns are arising on New Gurappanapalya 5th Cross Road as residents have been facing various issues, including poorly maintained roads for two months, and are seeking attention.

Fast-track to convenience

Bannerghatta Biological Park plans smart parking solutions to tackle heavy footfall

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BBP aims to transform parking challenges with deployment of smart parking solutions over 6 years

Due to the increasing foot traffic, Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) is gearing up to introduce cutting-edge smart parking solutions. Official records reveal that BBP witnesses a staggering 1 lakh visitors per day, particularly on weekends.

To address the persistent parking challenges, BBP is set to revolutionize its approach with the deployment of Smart Parking Solutions over a span of 6 years. The Zoo Authority of Karnataka has issued a tender for the "Installation of Smart Parking Solution and Operation & Maintenance of Vehicle Parking Stand at Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru, for a period of 6 years." The estimated project cost ranges between Rs 60-70 lakhs, with completion slated within three months of contract award.

"We are seeing heavy footfalls at BBP. We see daily footfall of up to 9-10 lakh visitors on weekends. Currently, BBP cannot earn huge revenue from parking, and there is no scientific parking management. We used to keep hearing complaints about parking issues and the cleanliness of the premises. There was also a local complaint from the Panchayat about traffic jams. Hence, we are implementing the smart parking solutions.

> **We used to keep hearing complaints about parking issue. Hence, we are implementing the smart parking solutions**
>
> –senior BBP official

To enable quick payments and seamless parking, we are enabling Fasttag payment." said a senior BBP official.

BBP officials say they are seeing nearly 20 lakh per annum and earning 55 crores in revenue. With the new system, BBP hopes to earn annual revenue of Rs 70-80 lakhs from parking alone.

As part of the smart parking solutions, the bidder must develop a parking management system. It should be able to geo-reference all the parking lots and can add more locations in the future. Parking Management System should enable obtaining real-time information about the availability of the parking lot by location based on the occupancy of the parking lot. The user should also be able to view availability by proximity and cost. The total number of slots and free slots for parking must be displayed on a digital signboard near the parking lots. Entry to any parking space should have outdoor displays/screens showing the overall availability of parking slots on a real-time basis in that particular parking space. The display board should be able to show green directional arrows to guide drivers to zones with available spaces. The Variable Message Display board will be deployed at nearby circles to the parking locations for ease of the public to know the availability and direction of the parking locations.

Additionally, the bidder will also have to run CCTV service for all parking lots related to BBP.

The system will also allow payment for parking using QR codes, Common Payment Card(CPC), and Fasttag at the exit manned booth. During both entry and exit, pictures of license plates will be clicked.

Rama's last roar

Rama, a 13.5-year-old lion at Bannerghatta Biological Park breathed his last early on Thursday.

The lion showed symptoms of vomiting on Wednesday morning and received treatment. However, by 7 pm on Wednesday, his health deteriorated further and he started showing signs of weakness and inability to walk.

Despite the best treatment provided by the park officials, Rama eventually succumbed to death. A post mortem conducted revealed multiple organ failure and it is suspected to be the cause of death. The visceral samples were also collected and sent to the IAH&VB Lab for further examination.

Rama was born on February 4, 2010, to lion Ganesha and lioness Anu. Rama, in his lifetime, sired 12 cubs. — BMB

CM mulls easing Town Hall curbs amidst demand

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File photo of people from all walks of life assembled at the Town Hall in solidarity with Manipur

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that the government is contemplating lifting restrictions on public protests at Town Hall in the city on Wednesday. This statement arises amid strong demands to abolish the order confining protests to Freedom Park.

The Chief Minister made the statement while speaking at a book release event. "The restrictions have been put in place in accordance with a High Court order. However, I will discuss with the Advocate-General of the state to see what can be done to ensure that the steps of Town Hall are free for protests," he said, after releasing a book on the well-known Kannada writer Dr K Marulasiddappa, titled 'Ethical Strength of Progressive Movements – Dr Marulasiddappa. He further added that protests are an integral part of democracy, and they act as feedback machinery to the government while ensuring accountability.

During the hearing of a suo motu PIL by the Karnataka High Court regarding the issue of inconvenience caused by public protests, the then Police Commissioner submitted a Licensing and Regulation of Protests, Demonstrations, and Protest Marches (Bengaluru City) Order, 2021. The order was notified in January 2022, restricting protests from being held anywhere in the city except Freedom Park. Prior to this, the steps of Town Hall were the frequent venue for protestors.

Demand for the order restricting protests to Freedom Park to be done away with has remained consistent; however, the government has not paid heed to the matter. Under the banner of Horatada Hakkigaagi Janandolana, activists from various movements had called for a march from the city's Maurya Circle to Vidhana Soudha on October 2, Gandhi Jayanti. However, Clifton D'Rozario from All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU), Maitreyi K from All India Lawyers Association for Justice (AILAJ), and Mavalli Shankar from Dalit Sangharsha Samiti (DSS) among others were detained for being part of the march.

"The Right to Protest is a fundamental right protected under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. The Bengaluru City Police, under the previous government, passed an order in effect restricting protests to Freedom Park. After the government changed, we met the new Police Commissioner and the Chief Minister and demanded that this order restricting protests to Freedom Park be withdrawn and that the FIRs filed against protestors be withdrawn. However, our demands have not been met," the group had said before carrying out the march.

Protestors have also been irked by the police not providing permission for certain protests and programmes to be conducted within the Freedom Park premises. Recently, Bengaluru for Justice and Peace, a coalition of organisations and citizens, wrote to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (West Division) demanding he reconsider allowing them to hold a day-long program at Freedom Park in solidarity with Palestine after he had denied them permission the first time around. The organisation then wrote an open letter to the Chief Minister, demanding the government uphold the right to protest.

Digital defence upgrade

Karnataka to collaborate with social media giants, roll out new cyber policy with view to curb rise of daily cases that led to financial losses exceeding Rs 1 crore

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In response to a surge in cybercrime cases, the State Government has decided to roll out a new cyber policy. Sources said that in Karnataka, including the capital, Bengaluru, the alarming rate of about 150 daily cybercrime cases, resulting in a staggering loss of over a crore rupees, has prompted the state to take comprehensive measures. The government is set to collaborate with social media giants to enhance information sharing and is in the process of formulating a robust cyber policy.

An official said, "To address the root causes, the state is implementing a multifaceted approach. Plans include integrating chapters related to cyber awareness programs in the curriculum of schools and colleges. In rural areas, a targeted lecturer series will educate students on cybersecurity. The initiative extends to effectively utilising social media platforms, such as raising awareness about cyber threats and disseminating preventive measures.

Additionally, the state aims to curb illegal games and fraudulent loan apps, recognising their role in facilitating cybercrimes."

Stressing the importance of educating the younger demographic, IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge said, "There is a need to cultivate secure online practices among students and youths. This initiative seeks to instill a culture of responsible online behaviour and awareness."

Other than carrying out cyber awareness programmes, the state also aims to curb illegal games and fraudulent loan apps, recognising their role in facilitating cybercrimes

Meanwhile, the police have decided to take a popular route to popularise awareness of cyber crimes.

In fact, a few police stations are releasing a video reel every week. Recognising the influence of popular culture, many district police, including Ballari, have taken up a creative journey to employ reels for cybercrime awareness.

"Despite the misconception that cybercrimes are confined to major cities like Bengaluru, Ballari witnesses 10 to 15 reported cases monthly. In response, law enforcement is actively engaging with the public through reels depicting real-life cybercrime scenarios. The initiative involves collaboration with engineering college students and NGOs. We have also introduced a cyber diary, a step in documenting and prioritising reported cybercrime incidents. By categorising incidents into types such as OTP frauds, online job scams, social media frauds, and biometric hacks, authorities can streamline their awareness efforts. Reels will be tailored to each fraud category, offering targeted education to the public," said an official.

> **"By categorising incidents into types such as OTP or social media frauds, online job scams and biometric hacks, awareness efforts can be streamlined** – Official

Reacting to this, Ballari SP Ranjit Kumar Bandaru said, "We plan to release a reel every week, demonstrating our commitment to consistently educate the public on safeguarding themselves from online frauds. Our innovative approach not only leverages the popularity of reels but also represents a pioneering effort in utilising social media to communicate crucial cybersecurity messages effectively."

Medical education regulator defers decision on MBBS seat cap by 1 year

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has deferred by a year its decision to cap the number of MBBS seats to 100 per 10 lakh population following protests by southern states.

The decision was taken after the Union Health Ministry on November 1 asked the medical education regulator to re-examine the provisions of the ratio of 100 MBBS seats per 10 lakh population in states.

"It is informed that a decision has been taken by the Undergraduate Medical Education Board, National Medical Commission that the 'objective' clause under Chapter-1 of 'Guidelines for Under Graduate Courses under Establishment of New Medical Institutions, Starting of New Medical Courses, Increase of Seats for Existing Courses and Assessment and Rating Regulations, 2023" (notified by UGMEB on August 16, 2023) shall be implemented from academic year 2025-26," the Commission said.

The medical commission had in August stated that "After 2023-24 (from the 2024-25 academic year), letter of permission for starting of new medical colleges would be issued only for annual intake capacity of 50/100/150 seats (new medical colleges will only have 50-150 seats) provided that medical colleges shall follow the ratio of 100 MBBS seats per 10 lakh population in that state/Union Territory."

Karnataka had opposed plan

The August 16 notification was opposed by states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Puducherry, which have a large number of medical colleges. – PTI

Play grounded for children in Bengaluru parks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

waterlogging. "What is the use of installing the play equipment for children here if the BBMP is unable to check waterlogging around at the play area in the park?" asked Govinda Raju, a resident of Vasanth Nagar.

The residents demand the BBMP authorities maintain the pathway and concrete benches for the benefit of senior citizens and level the ground at the play area to avoid waterlogging whenever it rains.

"Children will not be able to use the play equipment during monsoon due to waterlogging. It will be a great help for children residing around the park if the authorities take measures to prevent waterlogging around the play equipment," said Parthasarathy S, a resident.

Some of the play equipment is either missing or broken. The residents appealed to the BBMP horticulture department to replace the broken play equipment as early as possible for the benefit of children.

Demanding the BBMP to enable children to use the play equipment, Child Rights Trust director Nagasimha G Rao said children have the right to play as per the Article 31 of the Union Convention on the Rights of the Child. "The condition of the park showed how the children's rights are violated. Community has to raise its voice about this issue. If the playing space is not good, children will start playing on roads which are not safe for them. I want the BBMP to maintain the park properly in the interest of children," said Rao.

Meanwhile, the BBMP executive engineer (projects/east) floated a short term tender inviting bidders for the maintenance of parks in Shivajinagar, Shanthinagar, CV Raman Nagar, Hebbal, Sarvagna Nagar, and Pulikeshinagar at an estimated cost of Rs 2.60 crore on November 7.

A BBMP horticulture department official said it is for the first time the civic body is allocating funds for the maintenance of the play equipment and pathways in the parks. "Play equipment is in a bad condition at many parks. It needs to be maintained properly," the official said.

However, BBMP horticulture superintendent for east zone was not available for comment.

Clean it up! 'Remediate contaminated sites soon'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

list of 'probable contaminated sites' that require further investigation. The five contaminated sites in the city included Goripalya near Mysore Road, Mangammanapalya near Hosur Road, Peenya Industrial area, Mavallipura dumpsite near Yelahanka and Begur lake. The list of probable contaminated sites by CPCB includes Lalbagh Lake, Madiwala Lake, Hebbal Lake, Bellandur Lake, Kengeri Tank, Arekere Lake, and Agara Lake. These sites involved production areas, landfills, dumps, waste storage and treatment sites, mine tailings sites, spill sites, chemical waste handlers, and storage sites located in various parts of the city.

Contaminated sites are delineated areas in which the constituents and characteristics of the toxic and hazardous substances, caused by humans, exist at levels and in conditions that pose existing or imminent threats to human health or the environment.

Environment experts said these contaminated and probable contaminated sites must be remediated on priority as they adversely impact the surrounding environment, particularly soil, surface water, and groundwater, posing a threat to people in and around the impact zone.

They say heavy metals have already entered the food chain and any further contamination will lead to irreparable damage. "Various health and environmental problems are bound to manifest over time if these sites are not remediated soon.

The impact of harmful chemicals and heavy metals has already been witnessed in many parts of the city. Heavy metal contamination in vegetables in the city has already been reported. KSPCB should act fast and before it's too late," said a city based environmentalist.

Teaser drops — Marvel fans are in for a treat as Sony Pictures has released the teaser trailer for 'Madame Web,' a new superhero film in the Spider-Man Universe. Dakota Johnson is starring as Cassandra Webb, who possesses clairvoyant abilities

Sequel plans

During her recent visit to India, actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas took the opportunity to connect with industry professionals and contemplate her next steps in the Hindi film industry. The Don franchise is reportedly under consideration for her upcoming projects.

Having officially declared that Ranveer Singh will carry the Don franchise forward in the forthcoming sequel, replacing Shah Rukh Khan, filmmaker Farhan Akhtar is now fully focused on the development of Don 3.

Farhan's focus moved to Don as his other project, Jee Le Zara, which would bring together names like Alia Bhatt, Priyanka Chopra and Katrina Kaif together for the first time,e faced date issues from its leading actresses.

As per a report in Hindustan Times, Akhtar is currently in the process of bringing together his Dil Dhadakne Do co-stars once again. It suggests that Don 3 team has approached Priyanka Chopra to reprise her role. Initial discussions have already taken place while Priyanka was recently in the city as part of a film festival.

Due to the unavailability of dates for Jee Le Zara, Priyanka and Farhan's teams are striving to materialise Don 3.

—ETimes

Birthday joy

Ananya Panday sends sweet birthday wish to rumoured boyfriend

Ananya Panday and Aditya Roy Kapur are rumoured to be dating for a while now. It all started during Manish Malhotra's Diwali party last year when they were twinning in black and posed together for the paps. Later, they also walked the ramp for Manish, and their chemistry was hard to miss. Karan Johar had also teased Ananya when she appeared on his show about chit-chatting in a corner with Aditya at his party.

What further cemented their dating rumours is their holiday pictures, which went viral. Ananya recently celebrated her birthday and was rumoured to be on a vacation with him to Maldives. It's Aditya's birthday today, and Ananya has dropped a birthday wish for him. She shared a photo of the actor surrounded by greenery and blue skies, which seems to have been clicked by Ananya. She wrote, "Happy Birthday AD" with a rainbow and heart emoji.

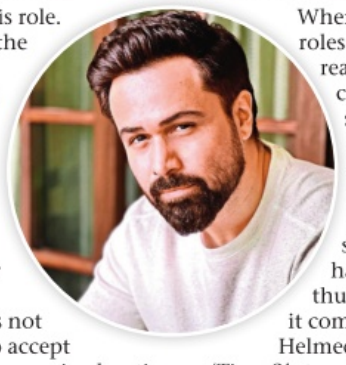
However, when Ananya recently appeared on Koffee With Karan 8, the actress didn't confirm her relationship. When Karan asked her, she said that some things should just be kept private and that Aditya is her close friend. But Karan kept saying all through the show that Ananya has a boyfriend. Sara Ali Khan, who appeared with Ananya on this episode, also kept teasing her.

When asked about the one that Ananya has and Sara doesn't, the actress said, "A Night Manager."

—ETimes

Unique role

Actor Emraan Hashmi opened up about playing an antagonist in the movie 'Tiger 3', and what made him say yes to this role.



He told ANI, "After the lockdown, I got a call from the casting director Shanoo Sharma, 'Do you like to have a coffee with Maneesh Sharma?'. I reached there, and he asked, we are looking to cast an antagonist for 'Tiger 3'."

He added that it was not initially easy for him to accept the role as there is a preconceived notion about an antagonist.

"I was sceptical initially because when you hear of the antagonist, there is a preconceived notion, but when I heard the script, I found a depth in character, and there are many shades to it, which I liked and,d thus, I said yes to it."

Emraan is known for playing romantic roles, and playing this character gave him an opportunity to show a different side of himself as an actor.

When asked about the kind of roles he is looking at and the reason for being selective in choosing his projects, he said, "I have been getting similar kinds of roles. But after a time, there is a saturation point, and you feel like changing your on-screen image. That is what happened with me, and thus, I became selective when it comes to choosing projects."

Helmed by Maneesh Sharma, 'Tiger 3' stars Salman Khan, Katrina Kaif and Emraan Hashmi in the lead roles.

'Tiger 3' is the third installment of the Tiger franchise and a part of the YRF Spy Universe with War and Pathaan.

—ANI

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Back in action

In thrilling news for fans of the versatile actor Suman, it has been revealed that he will be playing the lead role in the upcoming bilingual movie Thrisha, set to be released in Kannada and Telugu. Suman, recognized for his prowess in both action and devotional genres, including notable performances in movies like Annamayya and Ramadas, is set to captivate audiences once again.

Renowned Telugu director RK Gandhi, known for his work on films such as Prema Biksha, August 6 Rathri, and Rudhrakshapuram, is directing this movie. The muhurat ceremony for the film took place at Miyapur near Hyderabad, unveiling the movie's intriguing tagline - Sambavami Yuge Yuge.

The film's narrative draws inspiration from incidents that transpired at the Virupaksha Temple in Mulbagal, as shared by the director. "Suman portrays the character of Virupaksha, a devout follower of Lord Siva. The storyline revolves around Virupaksha, delving into the challenges he encounters and how he overcomes them," he said. The movie promises to blend devotion and suspense, ensuring an entertaining experience. The initial shoot of the movie took place at a studio in Hyderabad, with regular shooting set to commence on November 26.

Rhythmic gem

Director NS Sridhar expressed his joy upon completing the shooting of a special song for the much-anticipated movie Prema Kavya. Sridhar, who marked his directorial debut in Sandalwood with the Kannada film Maye, was thrilled about this significant milestone. Unfortunately, Maye faced challenges that prevented its release.

"Ajaneesh Lokanath, who scored music for Kannada movies Kanthara and Avane Srimannarayana and other box-office hits, scored music for five songs of the movie Maye, which was shelved. Among the five songs, one was a special song. I utilised the special song of Maye for the movie Prema Kavya," said the director, adding that most music lovers do not know that Maye was the first movie for Ajaneesh Lokanath as a music director. The visually captivating song 'Anuthide Nanna Mana Prathikshana' was shot at the Sambrama Convention Centre on Hesaraghatta Road and featured Sambrama Sri and others.The movie's shooting took place in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kushalnagar, and Madikeri.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, DEEPA NAGARAJ W/O, RAJANEESH PAI R/o No 71, 1st Floor, 4th Cross,Park Road, Saraswathi Nagar, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru 560040 have changed my name to DEEPA PAI for all purposes.

I Arathi Britto W/o. Sylvester Britto. R/o 227 1st Cross, Hrbr Layout, 3rd Block, Kalyan Nagar, Blr- 43, has changed my name to Annie Sharon Britto.

Change of Name

I, Kulapandalam Pushpa Srinivasan, r/at KBR Pearl House, No. 306, 3rd Main Road, Coffee Board Layout, Hebbal, Kempapura, H A Farm Post, Bangalore 560024 have changed my name to **Pushpa Srinivasan** for all future purposes vide affidavit dt: 16.11.2023 sworn before Notary C N Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

I, Naik Krishna Swamy, Residing at No.75, Shashidhara Layout, Channasandra, R R Nagar, Bangalore South, Karnataka-560098. Hereby declare that My wife Mangala H K date of Birth Published As 20.09.1967, but my wife date of birth entered in School transfer Certificate, Aadhar Card And Voter ID card is 23.09.1969. In View of Above change the date of birth of my wife is 20.09.1967 instead of 23.09.1969 vide affidavit dated 4.11.2023 Sworn Before Notary K.V.Prema Kumari, Bangalore.

I, Nisha (Ummakki) Biddatanda Belliappa R/a #9, Someshwara temple road, Sugg atta, Hunasamaranahalli, B'lore 562157. I have changed my name to Nisha Ummakki Biddatanda Belliappa. Vide affidavit dtd 14-11-23. Sworn before notary S.N. Madhu Bangalore.

I, Anand Ramakrishna Rao S/o Ramakrishna Rao Ramohalli R/o #1438, 5th Main , rajajinagar B'luru-560010 have changed my name to R Ananda Krishna Rao for all purposes.

I, Shahu Abdul Azeez S/o Abdul Jabbar R/o 53/3 Mune Gowda Garden,Neelasandra B'luru-560047 have changed my name to Abdul Azeez for all purposes.

I, Mary Sangeetha D/o Israel Santiago R/o #201, 2nd Floor , Munireddy layout Horamavu, B'luru-560043 have changed my name to Sangeetha Sandeep for all purposes.

I, Armaan Anwar Saheb S/o, Anwar Saheb Gundmi R/o No. 301, Mahaveer Willow Annexe, Kengeri Satellite Town,Kengeri Bangalore - 560060, have changed my name to Armaan Anwar for all purposes.

I Rolf Joseph Silva S/o Joseph Silva R/o Flat No: 003 Amg Conclave 1st Floor Opp Akshay Villas Akshay Nagar Yellen - halli Main Road Bangalore-560068 have changed my name to Rolf Joseph D'silva.

I, Meenakshi Nullipadi Mallya W/O, Nagesh Nullipadi Mallya R/o 119 Anand Kutira 13 Main 3 Cross Aicoboo Nagar Btm 1st Stage Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to Meena Nullipadi Mallya for all purposes.

I Venkatalakshmi Sravya Phanish Dasa W/O, Phanish.d.n R/o N0-77/1,1st Main Road, 5th Cross,okalipuram, Srirampura Post, Bengaluru-560021 have changed my name to Venkata Lakshmi Sravya Bysani.

I, SHALINI M, Residing at No 37, 18th Cross, Khaja Masjid Road, Madeena Nagar, Mangammanapalya, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560068. Have changed My name to NADIYA M vide affidavit dtd 16/11/2023 before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Alihusain Dahodwalla R/o 5, 5th Cross, Vinayakanagar, Jp Nagar 5th Phase, Bengaluru have changed my minor son's name from Burhanuddin to Burhanuddin Alihusain Dahodwalla.

I Suhas.h S/O, Raghavendra Rao.h R/o N0-321,6th Cross,1st Main, Ms Ramaiah North City,thanisandra Main Road,bengaluru-560045 have changed my name to Suhas Rao.

I, Divya, W/o Gurdit Singh Sachdeva, R/o 3116, Prestige Misty Waters, Kempapura Bus Stop, Nagawara, Bengaluru, Pin: 560024, Karnataka have changed my name to Divya Kalsi

I Srinivasamurthy S/O, Chikkanna R/o 9/188, 3rd Cross, West Of Cord Road Kurubarahalli, Bengaluru-560086 have changed my name to Srinivasa Murthy Chikkanna.

I, Afzal pasha R/o #283 10th Cross ,3rd stage , BCC layout Vijay Nagar B'lore-560040 have changed my name to Abdul Ajeez

I, Mohseen taj W/o Asgar Pasha R/o #6, 1st floor , 5th Crosss, R K complex Doddamahalli lalbagh Road B'lore-560004 have changed my name to Moshin Taj.

I Upvan S/O, Sh. Kanwal Nain Dhar R/o B003, SK Aster, Doddathoguru, Electronic City Phase-1, Bangalore-560100, Karnataka, have changed my name to Upvan Dhar for all future purposes.

I, MOHAMMED SHAHIR, residing at No.3, 2nd D Main, 5th Cross, 3rd Phase, Gokul 1st Stage, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022 have changed my name to MOHAMMAD SAHIR, vide affidavit dated 14.11.2023 sworn before notary V.Anjanappa, Bangalore.

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I Samarth.S R/o #175 ,3rd Main, 3rd Cross , Upkar Residency Layout Bangalore 560091 have changed my name to Samartha.S .

I, Vagdevi Hulyal Kambali D/o Veerabasappa R/o Shiva Kuttera 28th Main Road , Annaiah Reddy layout J P Nagar 6th phase B'lore-560078 have changed my name to Vagadevi Hulyal Kambali .

I, Nagaraj Manjunath S/o Nagaraju B R/o 29/1 Poorvi 1st D Cross, Sharadhanagara B'luru-560061 have changed my name to Manjunatha Nagaraju for all purposes.

I, AADHYA MYLAVARAPU KRISHNA D/o M.Krishna, aged about 26 Years, R/at No.31, Aadhyas, 1st Main Road, Munnireddy Layout, Horamavu Main Road, Bangalore- 560043 have changed my name to AADHYA KRISHNA vide affidavit dated: 15/11/2023 Before Notary B.R.Shashikala Bangalore.

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Australia edge South Africa, to play India in final

Despite restricting chase to 212, Oz didn't have it as easy as they would have liked

Australia's Travis Head is bowled out during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup second semifinal match between Australia and South Africa in Kolkata ; Australia's Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc celebrate progressing to the final after winning the match

Australia sealed their place in Sunday's final of the 50-over World Cup against India following a nervy three-wicket victory against South Africa in the second semi-final on Thursday.

Australia bowled out South Africa for a below-par 212 despite David Miller's defiant 101 but the chase was not as straightforward as Pat Cummins and his team would have liked.

Travis Head (62) led Australia's rollicking start before a mid-innings wobble put the five-time champions in a spot of bother.

South Africa did not let big partnerships bloom but Australia eventually reached the target with 16 balls to spare with Steve Smith (30) and Jos Inglis (28) providing useful cameos.

Earlier, Temba Bavuma's decision to bat under an overcast sky backfired and South Africa slumped to 24-4 inside 12 overs before light rain held up play.

Miller and Heinrich Klaasen (47) arrested the slide after play resumed with a 95-run partnership but Head's double strike put Australia back in charge.

Miller smashed Cummins for a six to bring up his hundred but fell in the same over trying to clear the rope again.

India beat New Zealand in the first semi-final on Wednesday to book their place in the final in Ahmedabad. **Reuters**

Miller scores S. Africa's first-ever World Cup knockout match century

South African middle-order batter David Miller made history on Thursday, smashing the first-ever century by a Proteas batter in an ICC Cricket World Cup knockout match.

Miller accomplished this milestone during the semifinal match of the ICC Cricket World Cup against Australia at Kolkata's Eden Gardens.

Miller walked in at 24/4 and smashed a memorable century despite all odds. He scored 101 runs in 116 balls. His knock consisted of eight fours and five sixes.

His runs came at a strike rate of over 87.

This has overtaken Faf Du Plessis's 82-run knock against New Zealand in the 2015 Cricket World Cup semifinal as the best score by a South African in WC knockouts.

Miller's century is also only the third century by a South African in an ICC event knockout match.

Earlier, Herschelle Gibbs had made 116* against India in the semifinal of the ICC Champions Trophy 2002. Jacques Kallis also made 113* against Sri Lanka in the semifinal of the 1998 Champions Trophy.

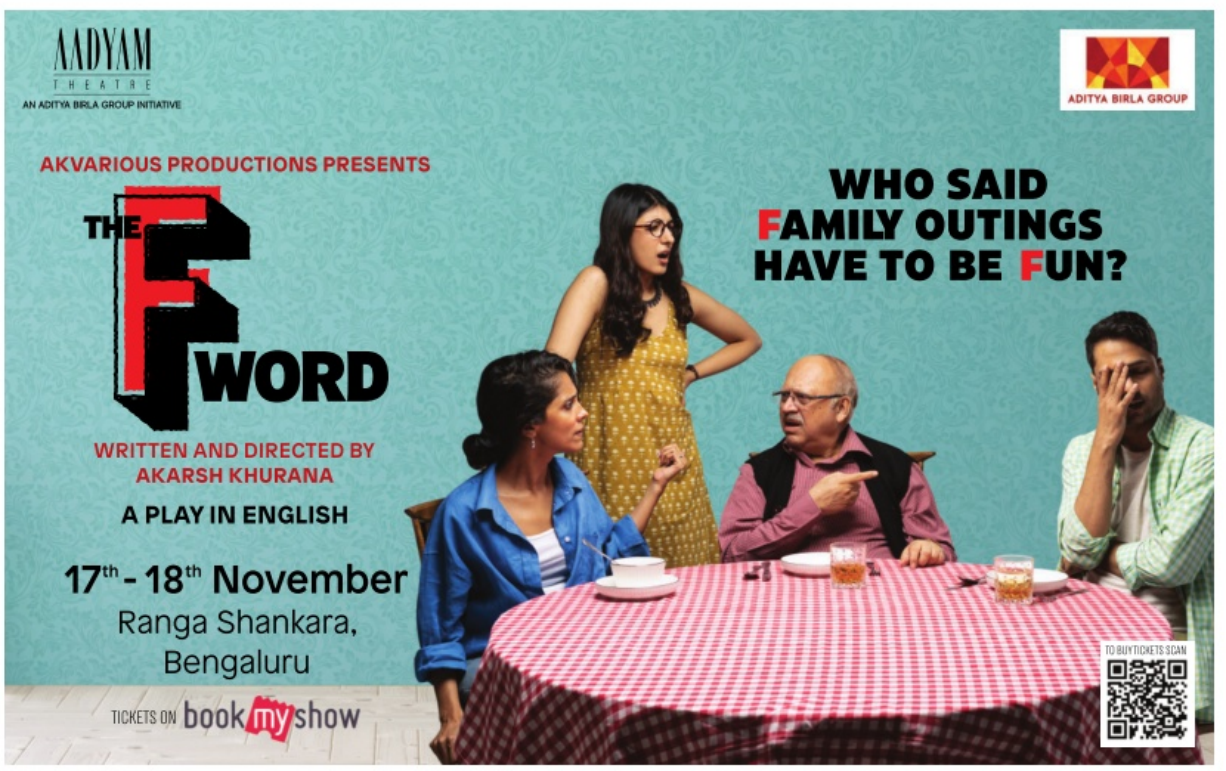
Miller has also overtaken Kallis to become Proteas' second-highest six-hitter in ODI cricket, with 138 sixes. Kallis had hit 137 sixes in his ODI career.

The highest ODI sixes by a South African batter are by AB de Villiers, who has 200 sixes in the 50-over format.

Besides Glenn Maxwell (three centuries), Miller is the only batter who comes at number five or below to have two or more World Cup tons. Miller has scored two centuries in his World Cup career.

In 10 matches of this World Cup, Miller has scored 356 runs at an average of 44.50.

He has ended unbeaten twice. Miller has scored a century and a fifty in the tournament, with the best score of 101 and a strike rate of over 107. **ANI**



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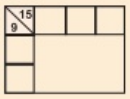
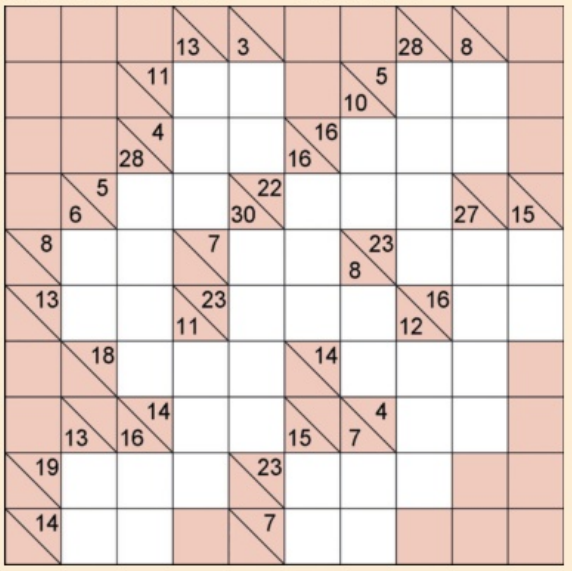
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

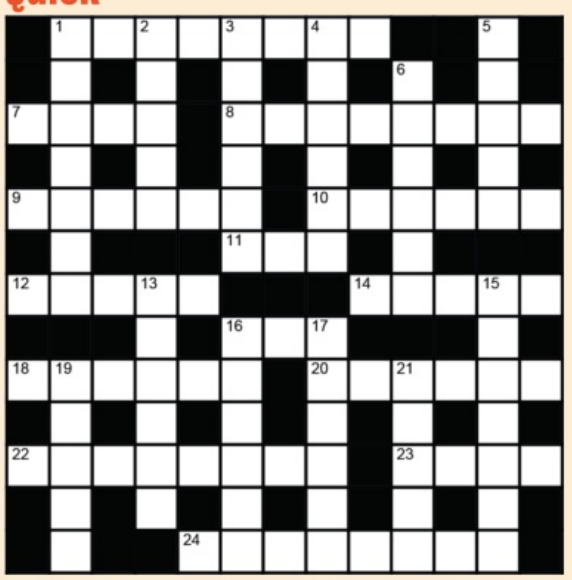


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Confined in a small room (8)
7 161 in the old Roman figuration (4)
8 Recovers from? (4,4)
9 Get hold of (6)
10 ___ down : made a written note of? (6)
11 Abate, flow back (3)
12 Waste matter (5)
14 Prepares for publication (5)
16 Had a meal (3)
18 Oceans anagram for boats? (6)
20 Final section of large intestine (6)
22 Where in Karnataka Shiravati River drops 253 meters (3,5)
23 A dull pain (4)
24 Retired from duty with honour (8)

DOWN

1 Strength or quality of character or ability (US spelling)? (7)
2 ___ board : used in spiritual seances (5)
3 Locomotive (6)
4 Bury (6)
5 At what place? (5)
6 Tied up at a wharf (6)
13 Jeers at (6)
15 Has an effect on (7)
16 Place of refuge (6)
17 Rubber (6)
19 By oneself (5)
21 Boat, artifice or skills (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS P

CDFET TJM TOJMNG ROG IYBZQ UGTJDFG ER TJM TOJMNG WGYWZG.

Linemaro

Hey baby you're so fine you make me stutter, wha-wha-what's your name?

Mindchow

One good thing about being wrong is the joy it brings to others

Joke of the day

Anyone who says an onion is the only vegetable that will make you cry has never been hit in the face with a pumpkin

Loop

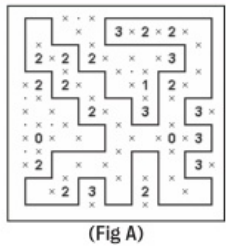
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

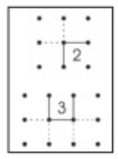
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

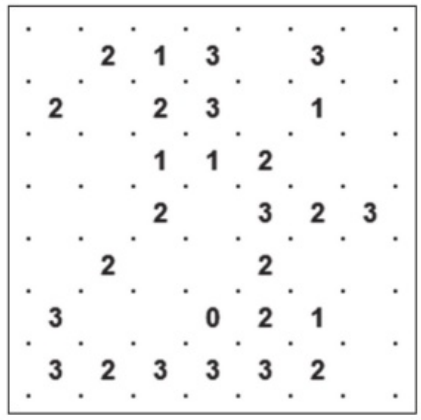
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



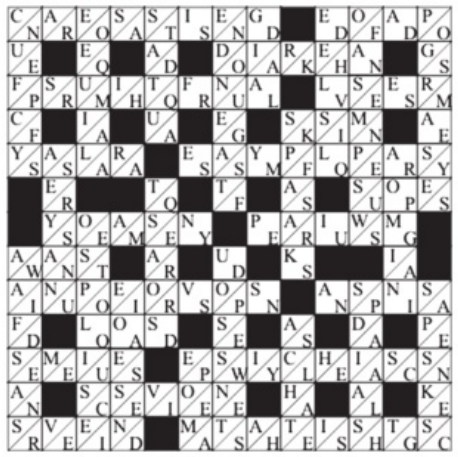
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8			G	
9				

ACROSS

1 Bam it; 6 Maybe; 7 A is as; 8 Incog; 9 Coign

DOWN

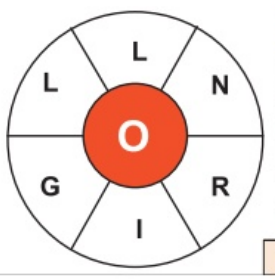
1 I a cab; 2 Omens; 3 Is ABC; 4 Amigo; 5 Tiny G

Mensapuzzle

What letter is immediately to the left of the letter that is immediately below the letter two to the left of the letter I?

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

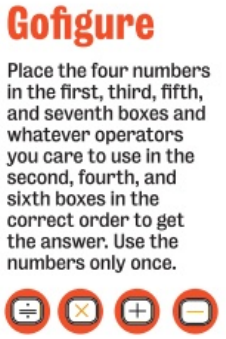
SudokuChallenge

		7				3		
9		4	8		2	5		1
	2			7			8	
4			6	8	5			9
5			4	3	7			6
	4			5			6	
7		8	1		9	2		3
		1				9		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 15

1 3 5 8

Medium = 7

1 2 2 7

Hard = 1

5 6 7 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

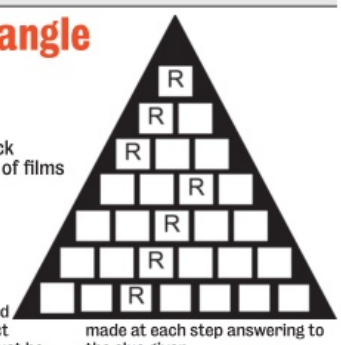
Differences: 1. Report card is smaller. 2. Stripe on shirt is lower. 3. Back of chair is different. 4. Pencil is longer. 5. Blinds are different. 6. Lampshade is higher.

Riddler

A six-digit number represented by ABCDEF (each letter represents a different number) can be multiplied by 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 and yet no new digits appear in the result. As a matter of fact, all the digits are rotated. What is the number?

Alpha triangle

1 18th letter
2 Concerning
3 Regret
4 Certainly
5 Look after the sick
6 Repeat showings of films
7 Greenhouse

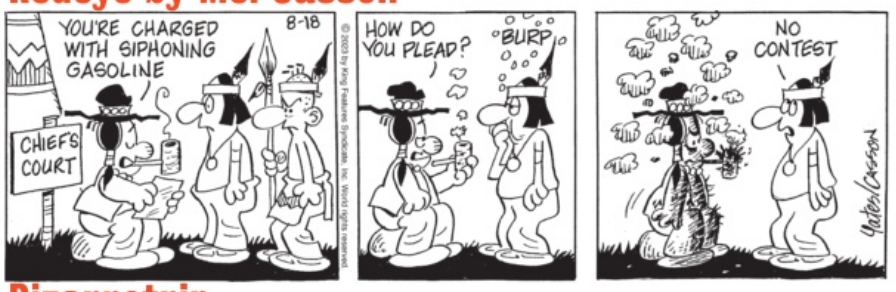


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



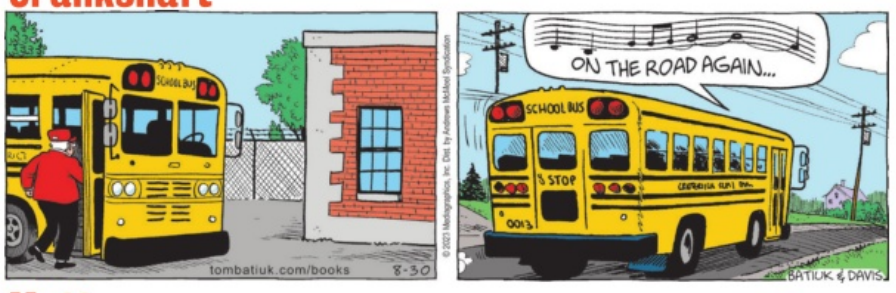
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

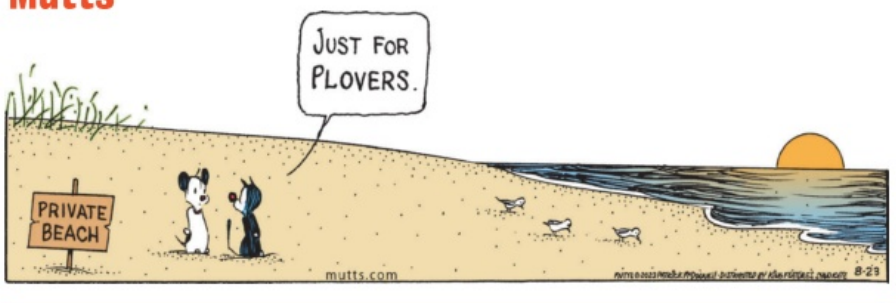
Hart of the city

HEY, HEART! READY FOR THE DANCE?
AWWW! PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY!
YOU GOT ME A CORSAGE? IT'S A DANCE, NOT HOMECOMING!
I KNOW. I JUST LIKE TO BE EXTRA.
YOU KNOW WHAT? SO DO I. PUT IT ON.
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be happy. Property-related issues with the siblings might be settled down. You may likely meet an influential person who may help you grow your work. Your professional contacts may help you grow your business. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in fixed assets; they might be dead assets. Work-related short travel may be expected.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be busy with family and friends; you will plan to go for an outing or some adventure tour with the family or friends. Kids' health might make you upset. You are blessed by the moon; it may help you find your ways out to get success. Your savings may increase, which may improve your financial health.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be full of vitality and with full inner strength. You may likely make good plans for the growth of your family business. You may be blessed by elders, so you might be able to implement new plans efficiently with the help of your team. Your wisdom may help you make some good decisions, which may increase your social status.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may face health issues; last night's sleeplessness may make you mentally tired. You may not be focused on your day-to-day work. You may feel laziness, which may affect your commitments. It is advised to avoid rush driving and adventure tours. You are also advised to avoid spending money on worthless stuff.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be busy in social gatherings; you may also meet some old friends. Your network might be strong, which may give you benefits in the near future on the work front. Natives related to export and import, glamour, and artefacts may perform better. Students are likely to perform better today in terms of study. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may have the good support of your family members. You may also have some expansion in your family business during these days, which will increase the social status of your family. You may also plan to expand your family in terms of a new child, which may improve bonding between family members. Students may apply for some scholarships for higher studies.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may be more spiritual; your destiny may be with you, and you may expect good gains in your past investments. Bonding with the boss is likely to be more improved, which may give you benefits in terms of promotions. You may also hear some good news from your sibling. You are advised to control your harsh speaking in love and personal life; it may affect your personal and love life.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be a victim of sleeplessness, which may make you lazy. You may also become careless, and it may affect your inner strength negatively. You are likely to be nervous at work, which may affect your running project. You are advised to avoid making investments in dead stuff. You are advised to avoid spicy food; you may expect a bad digestive system. You should avoid rush driving.

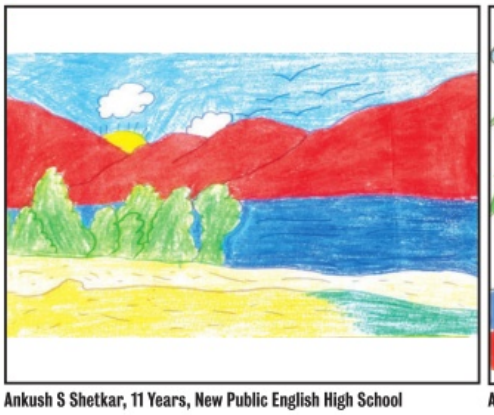
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed with the moon. You have some sort of internal strength, which may help you make some difficult decisions at work. Disputes with the partner are likely to be resolved. Singles may expect to find a good match with the help of relatives or friends; you may also have some investments in your business from outside resources.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. Your inner strength may make you confident, which will reflect in your way of working. You are likely to get good news in legal matters. Your money that was stuck may be recovered today, which may increase your savings. Kids' health may be good now. In domestic life, try to avoid unnecessary arguments.

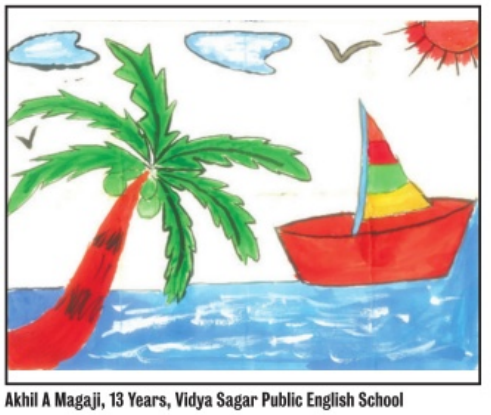
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today with the help of blessings, you may expect to get some gains in your past investments. You may plan to renovate the house or office. You may invest in some intellectual assets like buying some books or updating your knowledge; you may also plan for higher studies. Singles may likely get a soul mate in the same field. Natives related to research, education, and agricultural work may perform better.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel unhappiness; you may be a victim of arrogance that may affect your personal and professional life. You are likely to be under pressure. Some detachment from your responsibilities may be noticed in your nature. You are likely to be impatient at work. You are advised to take care of your parents. It is also advised to postpone some important decisions related to work.

KIDZONE



Ankush S Shetkar, 11 Years, New Public English High School



Akhil A Magaji, 13 Years, Vidya Sagar Public English School

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
121000 / (120780+1+12200)-2
121000 / 242000-2
0.5-2 = -1.5

BULL'S EYE
gyro, groin, iron, lingo, lion, loin, long, roll, roll, ROLLING

QUOTE UNCODE
Music can change the world because it can change people.

FAST FIVE

A	M	B	I	T
B	E	A	M	Y
A	S	S	A	I
C	O	I	G	N
I	N	C	O	G

STRIKE OUT

S	E	E	D	■	A	T	H	E	I	S	T	S	■	■
S	A	L	A	■	S	A	M	P	L	E	R	S	■	■
F	A	■	A	G	■	S	I	N	■	E	■	■	■	■
F	R	U	I	T	F	U	L	■	V	E	E	R	■	■
U	■	O	■	A	O	A	K	E	N	■	G	■	■	■
C	R	E	A	T	I	N	G	■	D	O	D	O	■	■

QUICK

■	■	■	■	■	E	M	E	R	I	T	U	S	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	N	■	S	■	U	■	E	■	■	■
J	O	G	F	A	L	L	S	■	A	C	H	E	■	■
L	■	F	■	Y	■	A	■	R	■	C	■	■	■	■
C	A	N	O	E	S	■	R	E	C	T	U	M	■	■
■	■	■	C	■	A	T	E	■	■	■	O	■	■	■
D	R	O	S	S	■	■	■	E	D	I	T	S	■	■
■	■	■	E	■	E	B	B	■	E	■	■	■	■	■
O	B	T	A	I	N	■	M	A	R	K	E	D	■	■
■	■	■	I	■	O	■	■	■	O	■	R	■	■	■
C	L	O	S	E	T	E	D	■	W	■	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
K.

RIDDLER
142857 (The first 6 digits of 1/7) 2 x
142857 = 285714 3 x
142857 = 428571 4 x
142857 = 571428 5 x
142857 = 714285 6 x
142857 = 857142

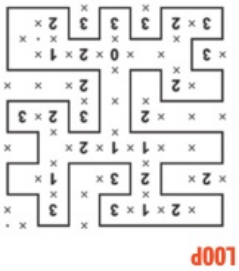
SUDOKU

3	5	1	7	2	6	9	4	8
7	6	8	1	4	9	2	5	3
2	4	9	3	5	8	1	6	7
5	9	2	4	3	7	8	1	6
8	7	6	2	9	1	4	3	5
4	1	3	6	8	5	7	2	9
1	2	5	9	7	3	6	8	4
9	3	4	8	6	2	5	7	1
6	8	7	5	1	4	3	9	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, Re, Rue, Sure, Nurse, Reruns, Nursery.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 5 - 1 + 3 = 15
Medium
2 / 2 x 1 x 7 = 7
Hard
7 - 5 - 6 + 5 = 1

LOOP



KAKURO

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